

Application Serial No.: 10/728,217
Filing Date: December 4, 2003
Docket: 2881 (203-5318)
Page 2 of 6

Response to 6/1/07 Office Action

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AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

1. (Original) A coating for a surgical article comprising:
 - a) a copolymer having a predominant amount of epsilon-caprolactone and a minor amount of at least one other bioabsorbable copolymerizable monomer; and
 - b) an effective antimicrobial amount of a metal salt of a fatty acid selected from the group consisting of fatty acid salts of lithium, rubidium, cesium, francium, beryllium, magnesium, strontium, barium, radium, aluminum, tin, lead, bismuth, transition metal and mixtures thereof.
2. (Original) The coating for a surgical article of claim 1 wherein the metal salt of a fatty acid is silver stearate.
3. (Original) The coating for a surgical article of claim 1 further including a fatty acid ester.
4. (Original) The coating for a surgical article coating of claim 3 wherein the fatty acid ester is selected from the group consisting of calcium stearoyl lactylate, magnesium stearoyl lactylate, aluminum stearoyl lactylate, barium stearoyl lactylate, zinc stearoyl lactylate, calcium palmitoyl lactylate, magnesium palmitoyl lactylate, aluminum palmitoyl lactylate, barium palmitoyl lactylate, zinc palmitoyl lactylate, calcium oleyl lactylate, magnesium oleyl lactylate, aluminum oleyl lactylate, barium oleyl lactylate, zinc oleyl lactylate and mixtures thereof.

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Page 3 of 6

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5. (Original) The coating for a surgical article of claim 3 wherein the fatty acid ester is calcium stearoyl lactylate.

6. (Original) The coating for a surgical article of claim 1 wherein the metal salt of a fatty acid ranges from about 0.3 to about 10 percent by weight of the coating composition.

7. (Original) The coating for a surgical article of claim 3 wherein the fatty acid ester ranges from about 30 to about 70 percent by weight of the coating composition.

8. (Original) The coating for a surgical article of claim 1 wherein the surgical article is a suture.

Claims 9-26 (Cancelled)